

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 05348 071144Z
ACTION SAB-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-10 CPR-01 IO-13 CIAE-00
DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
/074 W

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5104

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEOBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 5348

E.O.: 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PN, DA

SUBJ: DANISH SUPPORT FOR PANAMA CANAL TREATIES

REFS: (A) COPENHAGEN 5304 (B) COPENHAGEN 5306 (C) COPENHAGEN
5325 (D) STATE 212912

1. DCM PASSED CONTENTS REFTEL TO AMBASSADOR DYVIG, DEPUTY POLITICAL DIRECTOR MFA, AT OPENING OF BUSINESS TODAY. WE EXPRESSED OUR APPRECIATION THAT DANISH POSITION HAD BEEN SO FORTHCOMING FROM VERY BEGINNING AND THAT WITHOUT HESITATION THE DANES HAD LENT THEIR FULL SUPPORT TO DECLARATION OF WASHINGTON.

2. DYVIG REPLIED THAT DENMARK, AS A MAJOR CANAL USER, HAD ALWAYS HOPED THAT THE USG AND PANAMA COULD WORK OUT A SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENT AND THAT, THEREFORE, DENMARK WAS INDEED PLEASED THAT
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THE TREATIES WERE ABOUT TO BE SIGNED.

3. DYVIG WENT ON TO COMMENT THAT AT THE EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING IN BRUSSELS YESTERDAY, DENMARK HAD ARGUED THAT THE EC MARITIME POWERS SHOULD ENDORSE THE DECLARATION OF WASHINGTON AND BE PREPARED TO SIGN IT TODAY. UNFORTUNATELY, ACCORDING TO AMBASSADOR BIERRING, MFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR WHO REPRESENTED DENMARK,

A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES TOOK A MORE LEGALISTIC APPROACH AND SAID THEY COULD NOT SIGN THE DELCARATION IF THEY DID NOT AGREE WITH EVERY WORD OF THE TREATIES. BIERRING HAD REPLIED THAT THIS WAS "NONSENSE," SINCE THE MARITIME POWERS HAD ONLY BEEN ASKED TO LEND THEIR SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE.

4. DYVIG SAID THAT IN ANY CASE HE WOULD TELEPHONE DANISH CHARGE' KIMBERG IMMEDIATELY AND AUTHORIZE HIM TO MAKE STATEMENT WELCOMING SIGNATURE OF TREATIES, IF SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY WERE OFFERED DURING WHITE HOUSE CEREMONY.

5. FINALLY, DYVIG TOLD DCM THAT THE DANISH AUTHORITIES THOUGHT THAT BRINGING THE MAJOR MARITIME POWERSINT THE SIGNING CEREMONY WAS A GOOD INITIATIVE BUT THAT HE WAS SORRY THAT IT WAS DONE SO RAPIDLY THAT EVERYONE CONCERNED COULD NOT BE BROUGHT ON BOARD.

6. COMMENT: WE FEEL THAT ONCE AGAIN DENMARK HAS BEEN EXTREMELY COOPERATIVE IN SUPPORTING A MAJOR USG INITIATIVE. WE WOULD HOPE THAT AT AN APPROPRIATE OCCASION, OUR APPRECIATION FOR THIS SUPPORT CAN BE TRANSMITTED TO THE DANES.
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